

## **APPENDIX A:**

### **Lake/Territory List with Classification and Area Coordinators**

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The Montana Common Loon Working Group (CLWG) divided range of Montana's loons into Coordinator Areas to facilitate efforts such as data collection, habitat management, and public education. These 16 areas (Figure A) have from four to 60 lakes. Some areas (such as Murphy Lake Ranger District and Tally-Stillwater) support numerous high-quality loon nesting lakes. Other areas (such as the Lower Clark Fork and the Blackfeet Indian Reservation) primarily provide staging lakes most important for loons migrating between their nesting lakes in Canada and wintering areas.



**Figure A. Common Loon Monitoring Lakes and Coordinator Areas**

To characterize lakes used or potentially used by common loons and to help prioritize management and conservation, the CLWG maintains a classification system for every lake for which loon data has been collected. Where more than one territory occupies a lake, each territory is classified separately. These codes, modified from [Skaar \(1990\)](#), are based primarily on how loons currently use a lake or have used that lake in the past 20 to 25 years. These codes are reviewed and modified every few years depending on changes in loon activities or habitat quality.

If a lake or territory has a site-specific management plan, its name will be an underlined hyperlink to that plan.

**Surveys** (See [Appendix E](#))

**None:** No standardized survey is expected.

**May/July:** Survey is warranted in both May (nesting pairs) and July (nesting pairs and chicks) each year, although additional surveys may be done.

**July Only:** A survey is only expected in July (nesting pairs and chicks), although additional surveys may be done.

**Nesting Code**

**A:** Territorial Lake. Nesting has occurred or was attempted in the last five years.

**B:** Territorial Lake, but nesting has not been attempted in the last five years. Either old nesting records exist or a territorial pair has occupied the lake during the nesting season.

**C:** Not a territorial or nesting lake at this time and the lake meets criteria for nesting (under 5000 feet elevation, over 13 acres (5.4 hectares), and having shoreline habitat).

**D:** Not a territorial or potential breeding lake due to various considerations. These include high levels of human disturbance, lake size too small, lakes at elevations over 5000 feet (1525 m), etc.

**E:** Nesting status undetermined.

**Nesting-season Foraging Code**

**F1:** Critical nesting-season foraging habitat, whether or not used for nesting.

**F2:** Frequently used by loons for nesting-season foraging but apparently not critical foraging habitat. Observations of loons occur 50% or more of the years surveyed but are not likely a nearby nesting pair. May be a “singles” lake or a reservoir. Not used for nesting.

**F3:** Singles or pairs of common loons foraging less than 50% of the years where observations were made. Not used for nesting.

**F4:** Unknown foraging use. May or may not be a nesting lake.

**Migratory Code**

**M1:** Known migratory lake or reservoir where 10 or more loons observed in any one day in the migration season (generally from late March to April or during September or October).

**M2:** Known migratory lake or reservoir where singles or small groups of loons (usually fewer than 10) are observed during the migration season.

**M3:** Not known to be used as a migratory stop-over or staging area.

**Probability of Occupancy** ([Hammond 2008](#))

Probabilities of occupancy are intended to help prioritize efforts to protect lakes. These numbers represent probabilities from 1 to 100%. Research indicated the most influential factors on territorial occupancy of common loons in Montana were the abundance of feeding lakes within 6 miles (10 km) and the number of territorial pairs within 6 miles (10 km). Occupied lakes with higher probabilities have the greatest chance of remaining occupied by loons and producing offspring and thus these lakes are a high conservation priority. An occupied lake with a low probability is also a high conservation priority because if the lake becomes unoccupied the chances of a territorial pair reoccupying that lake appear to be low. For example if a lake receives a nesting code of A, but only has a probability of 24% it means that maintaining nesting on that lake is vitally important because the density of loons in the area is not adequate to reoccupy the lake should it become unoccupied. Some lakes were given codes instead of numbers (**R** = Reservoir, **S** = Size too small, **E** = Elevation, **NA** = Not Analyzed).

**Eureka Area: *Ellen Sullivan***

Eureka Ranger Station, Kootenai National Forest, PO Box 1712, Eureka, MT 59917, (406) 296-2536, easullivan @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Carpenter (Tetrault)	May & July	B	F2	M3	50%
Costich	May & July	B	F2	M3	15%
Grob	May & July	E	F4	M3	6%
Koocanusa Reservoir (Big Creek to Ziegler)	May & July	E	F2	M1	R
Koocanusa Reservoir (Bridge North)	May & July	E	F2	M1	R
Koocanusa Reservoir (Bridge South)	May & July	E	F2	M1	R
Koocanusa Reservoir (South of Zeigler Mt)	May & July	E	F2	M1	R
Moran	May & July	B	F2	M3	18%
Sophie	May & July	B	F2	M3	26%
Swisher	None	D	F4	M3	S

**Libby Area: *Jenny Holifield***

Libby Ranger Station, Kootenai National Forest, 31374 US Highway 2, Libby, MT 59923, (406) 293-6211, jholifield @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Double N	May & July	A	F1	M3	54%
Howard	May & July	C	F3	M3	49%
Kessler	May & July	A	F1	M3	50%
Koocanusa Reservoir (Dam North to Ziegler Mtn)	July only	D	F2	M2	R
Loon (Pipe Creek)	May & July	C	F3	M3	46%
Lower Geiger	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Rainbow (Libby area)	May & July	C	F3	M3	46%

**Troy: *Mandy Rockwell***

Three Rivers Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, 1437 North Highway 2, Troy, MT, 59935, (406) 295-7463, mrockwell @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Alvord	May & July	A	F1	M3	23%
Bull (Libby)	May & July	B	F3	M3	42%
Fish Lakes (by Vinal Cr.)	May & July	D	F2	M3	47%
Grouse	None	D	F4	M3	S
Hardy Ponds	May & July	B	F2	M3	S
Hoskins	May & July	A	F1	M3	50%
Kilbrennan	May & July	A	F1	M3	54%
Milnor	None	D	F4	M3	40%
Okaga	May & July	A	F1	M3	50%
Rene	May & July	A	F1	M3	50%
Savage	May & July	D	F3	M3	39%
Skinner	May & July	D	F3	M3	50%
Spar	None	D	F4	M3	49%
Vinal	May & July	D	F2	M3	62%

**Murphy Lake Ranger District: *Christie Ferruzzi***

Murphy Lake Ranger Station, Kootenai National Forest, Box 116, Fortine, MT 59918, (406) 882-8327, cferruzzi @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Big Therriault	July only	B	F1	M3	E
Black	May & July	B	F2	M3	13%
Blue (Stryker)	May & July	B	F2	M3	S
Bull (Stryker)	May & July	A	F1	M2	79%
Burnt	July only	D	F3	M3	S
<a href="#">Dickey</a>	May & July	A	F1	M1	84%
Dudley Slough	July only	D	F3	M3	S
Fire	July only	D	F2	M3	S
Fish (by Bull/Stryker Lake)	May & July	B	F1	M3	76%
Frank	May & July	A	F1	M3	28%
Glen	May & July	B	F1	M3	28%
Lick	May & July	A	F1	M3	30%
Little Therriault	July only	D	F2	M3	E
Long	July only	D	F3	M3	42%
Loon (Trego)	May & July	A	F1	M3	73%
Loon's Echo (Gayle's) Pond	May & July	A	F1	M3	76%
Lost	May & July	C	F3	M3	45%
Lower Sunday	May & July	C	F2	M3	S
Marl	May & July	A	F1	M3	64%
Martin	May & July	A	F1	M3	84%
Murphy	May & July	A	F1	M3	84%
Rattlebone	July only	D	F3	M3	S
Rock	May & July	C	F3	M3	28%
Smokey	July only	D	F3	M3	S
Thirsty	July only	D	F3	M3	28%
Timber	May & July	B	F1	M3	28%
Upper Sunday	None	D	F3	M3	S
Weasel	July only	D	F2	M3	E

**Kalispell West: *Gael Bissell***

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 751-4580, gbissell @ mt.gov

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Ashley/Causeway	May & July	A	F1	M2	79%
Ashley/East	May & July	A	F1	M2	79%
Ashley/South	May & July	A	F1	M2	79%
Ashley/Dam	May & July	A	F1	M2	79%
Dahl	May & July	C	F3	M3	50%
Foys	Often in April	D	F4	M1	39%
Lake Monroe	May & July	A	F1	M3	82%
Lake Rogers	May & July	A	F1	M2	51%
Little Bitterroot	May & July	B	F2	M2	82%
Lone	May & July	A	F1	M3	86%
Smith (Kila)	None	E	F4	M2	47%

**Thompson Chain: *Gael Bissell***

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 751-4580, gbissell @ mt.gov

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Banana	None	D	F4	M3	S
Cad	None	C	F4	M3	S
Cibid	None	C	F4	M3	S
Crystal (TCL)	May & July	C	F3	M3	44%
Fishtrap	May & July	B	F3	M3	49%
Horseshoe (TCL)	May & July	B	F3	M3	36%
Island	May & July	A	F1	M2	46%
Lake Lavon	None	D	F4	M3	S
Leon	None	D	F4	M3	36%
Lillypad	None	D	F4	M3	S
Little McGregor	May & July	C	F2	M2	32%
Loon (Hwy. 2)	May & July	B	F2	M2	36%
Lost	None	C	F3	M3	36%
Lower Thompson	May & July	A	F1	M3	40%
Lynch	May & July	B	F1	M3	58%
McGregor	May & July	B	F2	M2	47%
Middle Thompson	May & July	C	F1	M2	44%
Pearson Reservoir	None	C	F4	M3	R
Topless	None	D	F4	M3	S
Upper Thompson/East Lobe	May & July	A	F1	M3	40%
Upper Thompson/Middle Lobe	May & July	A	F1	M3	40%
Upper Thompson/West Lobe	May & July	A	F1	M3	40%

**DNRC NW Land Office: *Garrett Schairer***

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, NW Land Office, Highway 93 N, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 751-2258, gschairer @mt.gov

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Baney	None	D	F3	M3	S
Beaver	May/July	A	F1	M3	64%
Bowser	None	D	F3	M3	S
Boyle	May/July	A	F1	M3	52%
Cliff	None	D	F3	M3	S
Cyclone	May/July	A	F1	M3	62%
Dollar	May/July	C	F4	M3	S
Little Beaver	May/July	B	F1	M3	56%
Lore	None	D	F3	M3	R
Meadow	May/July	A	F1	M3	S
Murray	May/July	C	F4	M3	64%
Northwestern	None	D	F3	M3	S
Rainbow Lake (Stillwater)	None	D	F4	M3	S
Smith (near Whitefish Lake)	None	E	F4	M3	57%
Upper Whitefish	May/July	A	F1	M3	46%
Whitefish	None	C	F3	M2	62%
Wood	None	D	F4	M3	S
Woods	May/July	C	F4	M3	56%

**Tally-Stillwater: Amy Jacobs**

Tally Lake Ranger District, Flathead National Forest, 650 Wolfpack Way, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 758-3544, ajacobs@fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Blanchard	May/July	A	F1	M3	40%
Bootjack	May/July	A	F1	M3	52%
Chinook	July Only	B	F3	M3	S
Dog	May/July	A	F1	M2	63%
Finger	May/July	A	F1	M3	63%
Fish (by Stillwater River)	None	D	F3	M3	S
Hole in the Wall	None	D	F3	M3	S
Lagoni	May/July	C	F2	M3	76%
Lost Coon	May/July	A	F1	M3	48%
Lower Stillwater	May/July	A	F1	M1	63%
Lupine	None	D	F3	M3	S
Middle Stillwater	May/July	A	F1	M3	73%
Skyles	May/July	C	F2	M3	56%
Spencer	May/July	C	F2	M3	67%
Sylvia	None	D	F3	M3	E
Tally/North	May/July	B	F1	M2	51%
Tally/South	May/July	A	F1	M2	51%
Upper Stillwater/Middle	May/July	A	F1	M1	74%
Upper Stillwater /North	May/July	A	F1	M1	74%
Upper Stillwater/South	May/July	A	F1	M1	74%

**Flathead River-Forks: Angela Daenzer**

Hungry Horse/Spotted Bear/Glacier View Ranger Districts, Flathead National Forest, 8975 Highway 2 E., Hungry Horse, MT, 59919, (406) 837-3804, adaenzer@fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Bailey	May/July	D	F1	M3	59%
Cedar Creek Reservoir	May/July	A	F1	M3	47%
Garnet (Mud)	May/July	A	F1	M3	54%
Half Moon	May/July	B	F1	M3	47%
Handkerchief	None	C	F4	M3	49%
Hungry Horse Reservoir	None	D	F3	M2	R
Lake Five	None	D	F3	M3	51%
Lion	May/July	D	F2	M3	54%
Red Meadow	None	D	F3	M3	E
Spoon	May/July	A	F1	M2	47%
Stanton	May/July	A	F1	M3	49%
Teepee	May/July	A	F1	M2	54%

**Swan Valley: Jane Ingebretson**

Swan Lake Ranger District, Flathead National Forest, 200 Ranger Station Rd, Bigfork, MT 59911, (406) 837-7539, jmingebretson @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Bunyan	May/July	E	F2	M3	E
Crescent	July only	E	F4	M3	E
Crystal (Swan)	May/July	B	F2	M3	1%
Cygnets	May/July	B	F2	M3	44%
Glacier	May/July	B	F2	M3	E
Gray Wolf	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Holland	May/July	B	F2	M3	55%
Horseshoe Lake (Ferndale)	None	D	F3	M3	34%
Lindbergh	May/July	B	F1	M3	40%
Loon (Ferndale)	None	D	F3	M3	28%
Loon (Kraft Cr. Rd.)	May/July	A	F1	M3	11%
Lower Cold	July	D	F3	M3	E
Metcalf	July only	E	F4	M3	47%
Peck	May/July	B	F2	M3	20%
Pierce	May/July	A	F1	M3	63%
Shay	May/July	B	F2	M3	18%
Stoner	July only	D	F3	M3	50%
Swan (north)	May/July	A	F1	M3	32%
Swan (south)	May/July	A	F1	M3	32%
Tranquility	July only	E	F4	M3	S
Upper Cold	None	D	F2	M3	E
Upper Holland	July only	D	F2	M3	E
Van	May/July	A	F1	M3	29%

**Clearwater River Drainage: Scott Tomson**

Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, Seeley Lake, MT 59868, (406) 677-3925, stomson @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Big Sky (Fish)	May/July	B	F2	M3	47%
Clearwater	May/July	B	F2	M3	70%
Elbow	None	D	F3	M3	29%
Harpers	May/July	D	F2	M3	29%
Hidden (by Placid Creek)	None	D	F3	M3	66%
Lake Alva	May/July	A	F1	M3	70%
Lake Inez	May/July	B	F2	M3	47%
Marshall	May/July	D	F2	M3	45%
Placid	May/July	A	F1	M3	43%
Rainy	May/July	A	F1	M3	70%
Salmon	May/July	B	F2	M3	44%
Seeley/Middle	May/July	A	F1	M3	51%
Seeley/North	May/July	A	F1	M3	51%
Seeley/South	May/July	A	F1	M3	51%
Summit	May/July	A	F1	M3	60%
Tote Road	May/July	C	F3	M3	52%

**Flathead Indian Reservation: *Janene Lichtenberg***

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, PO Box 278, Pablo, MT 59855, (406) 883-2888 ext. 7291 or (401) 270-3643, janenel@cskt.org

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Crow Reservoir	May/July	D	F4	M3	R
Flathead Lake – Big Arm	May/July	C	F3	M2	R
Flathead Lake – Blue Bay	May/July	C	F2	M1	R
Flathead Lake – Cat’s Bay	May/July	C	F3	M1	R
Flathead Lake – Dayton (Cromwell)	May/July	C	F3	M2	R
Flathead Lake – East Bay	May/July	C	F2	M1	R
Flathead Lake – Elmo	May/July	C	F3	M2	R
Flathead Lake – Melita Island	May/July	C	F3	M2	R
Flathead Lake – Polson Bay	May/July	C	F3	M1	R
Flathead Lake – Wildhorse Island	May/July	C	F3	M2	R
Flathead Lake – Yellow Bay	May/July	C	F3	M1	R
Hubbart Reservoir	None	C	F3	M3	R
Kicking Horse Reservoir	May/July	A	F1	M2	R
Lake Mary Ronan	None	C	F3	M3	49%
Lone Pine Reservoir	None	D	F3	M3	R
Lower Jocko	May/July	C	F3	M3	R
McDonald	May/July	C	F2	M2	R
Mission Reservoir	May/July	B	F3	M2	R
Ninepipe Reservoir	May/July	B	F1	M2	R
Pablo Reservoir	May/July	B	F1	M2	R
Rainbow (Dog)	None	D	F3	M3	48%
St. Mary (near Twin Lakes)	May/July	C	F3	M3	R
Swartz	May/July	D	F3	M3	54%
Twin Lakes	May/July	D	F3	M3	R
Upper Dry Fork Reservoir	None	C	F3	M3	R
Upper Jocko	May/July	C	F2	M3	R

**Glacier National Park: *Lisa Bate***

Glacier National Park, PO Box 128, West Glacier, MT 59936, (406) 888-7833, lisa\_bate@nps.gov

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Akokala	July only	B	F1	M3	E
Arrow	July only	B	F2	M3	47%
Avalanche	May/July	C	F2	M3	50%
Bowman	July only	B	F2	M3	56%
Bullhead	May/July	D	F3	M3	E
Cosley	July only	B	F2	M3	25%
Cracker	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Dover Spike	May/July	A	F1	M3	54%
Elizabeth	July only	B	F2	M3	19%
Fish (by McDonald Lake)	May/July	D	F3	M3	S
Fishercap	May/July	C	F3	M3	32%
Glenns	July only	B	F2	M3	22%
Grace	July only	B	F2	M3	33%
Grinnell	May/July	D	F3	M3	49%
Gunsight	July only	D	F4	M3	E



*(Glacier National Park, continued)*

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Harrison	July only	B	F2	M3	38%
Helen	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Hidden (by Avalanche Lake)	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Hidden Meadow	May/July	A	F1	M3	86%
Howe	May/July	A	F1	M3	71%
Johns	May/July	D	F3	M3	S
Josephine	July only	C	F3	M3	15%
Kintla	July only	B	F2	M2	55%
Kootenai	July only	C	F3	M3	33%
Lake Ellen Wilson	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Lake Frances	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Lake Janet	July only	C	F3	M3	26%
Lake McDonald	May/July	C	F3	M2	50%
Lincoln	July only	D	F3	M3	49%
Logging	May/July	A	F1	M3	76%
Lonely	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Lower Quartz	July only	A	F1	M3	70%
Lower St. Mary	July only	B	F2	M3	43%
Lower Two Medicine	May/July	B	F2	M3	49%
Medicine Grizzly	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Middle Quartz	July only	A	F1	M3	63%
Mokowanis	July only	B	F2	M3	39%
Moskinonge (Waterton NP)	July only	A	F1	M3	N/A
No Name	July only	D	F4	M3	N/A
Old Man	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Poia	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Ptarmigan	July only	D	F4	M3	E
Quartz	July only	B	F2	M3	60%
Red Eagle	July only	B	F2	M3	46%
Redrock	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Rogers (GNP)	July only	B	F2	M3	59%
Running Crane	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Sherburne	May/July	B	F2	M3	29%
Slide	July only	D	F3	M3	E
St. Mary	May/July	C	F3	M2	42%
Stoney Indian	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Swiftcurrent	May/July	B	F2	M3	32%
Swiftcurrent Ridge	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Trout	May/July	A	F1	M3	43%
Two Medicine	May/July	C	F2	M3	49%
Upper Kintla	July only	B	F2	M3	42%
Upper Two Medicine	July only	D	F3	M3	49%
Waterton	July only	B	F2	M3	38%
Windmaker	July only	D	F3	M3	E
Winona (Mud)	May/July	A	F1	M3	73%

**Blackfoot River Area Lakes: *Elaine Caton and Jay Kolbe***

Elaine Caton: P.O.B. 92, Ovando, MT 59854, (406) 793-5038, woodpecker @ blackfoot.net, and Jay Kolbe: P.O. Box 1288, Seeley Lake, MT, 59868, (406) 677-0162, jkolbe @ mt.gov

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Bandy Reservoir	May/July	C	F4	M3	R
Browns	May/July	B	F3	M2	36%
Colburn Pond (Hoyt Lake)	May/July	A	F1	M3	44%
Coopers	May/July	C	F2	M3	50%
Doney (Little)	May/July	A	F3	M3	16%
Doney Reservoir (Big)	May/July	A	F1	M3	24%
Evans	None	E	F4	M3	52%
Foote's West Marsh	May/July	E	F4	M3	S
James	May/July	C	F3	M3	48%
Jones	May/July	C	F3	M3	44%
Kleinschmidt	May/July	C	F3	M3	33%
Lahrity	None	D	F4	M3	R
Lake Otatsi	May/July	C	F4	M3	E
Mud	None	D	F4	M3	R
Nevada Creek Reservoir	None	D	F4	M1	R
Rice	May/July	C	F3	M3	S
Shoup	May/July	A	F1	M2	40%
Upsata	May/July	A	F1	M2	36%
Widgeon (Slough)	May/July	C	F4	M3	S

**Lower Clark Fork: *Nate Hall***

Avista Corporation, P.O. Box 1469, Noxon, MT 59853, (406) 847-1281, Nate.hall @ avistacorp.com

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Cabinet Gorge	May/July	D	F4	M1	R
Miller Lake	May/July	C	F4	M3	S
Noxon Reservoir	May/July	D	F4	M1	R
Sylvan Lake	May/July	C	F4	M3	42%

**East Front: *Wendy Clark Maples***

Choteau Ranger Station, Lewis and Clark National Forest, PO Box 340, Choteau, MT 59422, (406) 466-5341, wmaples @ fs.fed.us

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Bynum Reservoir	None	D	F4	M2	R
Diversion	None	D	F4	M2	R
Eureka Reservoir	None	D	F4	M2	R
Gibson Reservoir	None	D	F4	M2	R
Lake Frances (East Front)	None	D	F4	M2	?
Nilan Reservoir	None	D	F4	M2	R
Ostle Reservoir (Antelope Butte Lake)	None	D	F4	M2	R
Pishkun Reservoir	May/July	B	F2	M3	R
Willow Creek Reservoir	May/July	B	F2	M3	R

**Blackfeet Indian Reservation: Lou Bruno**

P.O. Box 25, East Glacier, MT 59434, (406) 226-9294, wilderlou @ 3riversdbs.net

Lake/Territory	Surveys?	Nesting	Foraging	Migration	Prob. of Occupancy
Cooper (Minnie White Horse)	July only	E	F4	M3	E
Dancing Winds Pond	July only	E	F4	M3	62%
Dog Gun	July only	E	F4	M2	E
Duck	July only	E	F4	M2	62%
Goose	May/July	B	F2	M2	43%
Green	None	D	F4	M1	14%
Horn	July only	E	F4	M3	N/A
Kipp	None	D	F4	M1	N/A
Lower St. Mary	May/July	B	F2	M2	43%
Lower Two Medicine *	May/July	B	F2	M2	49%
Mission	None	D	F4	M2	N/A
Mitten	None	D	F4	M1	48%
Pike	None	D	F4	M1	19%
Swift Reservoir	None	D	F4	M1	R

\* Lower Two Medicine is also on Glacier National Park’s coordinator list but it is not on their priority list for survey.

**LOON SURVEY AREA COORDINATOR  
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1. Check Accuracy of Lake/Coordinator List** – Please check your contact information, list of lakes, lake type codes. Contact Amy Jacobs for any changes.
- 2. Arrange for coverage of lakes and send out survey forms for May survey** – The first loon surveys of each year should be completed by mid-May (the Saturday closest to May 15<sup>th</sup>). Approximately 3-4 weeks prior to May 15<sup>th</sup>, line up people to survey lakes in your area. Each of the surveyors will need to receive a survey form prior to the May survey. The coordinators will need to add maps of the individual lakes to the back of the survey forms prior to mailing them out, or they can instruct the surveyors to draw the lake on the back of the form, including locations for loons, nests, boating activity, etc. Ask the surveyors to return their completed survey form within 1 week after the survey.
- 3. Collect survey form for May survey** – You will probably need to follow up with phone calls, etc., to get the information back in a timely manner. This is especially true for the May survey. It is important to know which lakes have nesting pairs so you can start planning which lakes may need signs, public information, etc. On lakes where nesting pairs are indicated, it is a good idea to try to arrange for additional surveys between the mid-May survey and the Loon Day (July) survey to track nesting success and any possible disturbance.
- 4. Monitor need for signs, public education, etc.** – The Area Coordinator will probably be the person who arranges for the placement of signs at boat docks, landings, campgrounds, etc., and who arranges for floating “buoy” signs to be

installed, if needed. Many of these decisions will be based on the information gathered from the May loon survey and from information from surveys in past years.

5. **Arrange observers for Loon Day (July) survey and send out survey forms** – The other “must do” survey for loons is Loon Day, usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in July. Approximately 3-4 weeks before Loon Day, coordinate coverage of each of your lakes and send out survey forms to the surveyors. If you sent out enough forms in the spring to cover BOTH the spring and summer (July Loon Day) surveys, then a quick phone call in early July to confirm that the surveyors will be going to their lakes on Loon Day would be sufficient. Again, it is helpful to remind the surveyors to return their survey forms within one week of conducting the survey. They may also return any other information they have from additional loon surveys at this time.
6. **Gather loon survey information for the season** – Gather all the survey forms; this may require some follow up with phone calls, etc. to clarify the information on the survey forms and to get the forms back in a timely manner!
7. **Enter loon survey data** – Enter the May and July survey results into the Montana [Natural Resource Information System database](#). Contact Amy Jacobs for the password. Click on the “Add or Edit” button, then choose your lake(or part of a lake) from the drop-down menu. To add new data, click the “Add New Survey” button. Try to keep the comments to a minimum.
8. **Mail all survey forms to:** Gael Bissell, 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell, MT., 59901. Retain copies for yourself!
9. **Maintain a list of volunteers and other surveyors** you rely on for future use and information.